(d) in what manner Government purpose to rectify the anomaly so that the customers living in the outer Delhi may get the supply in time and in adequate quantity?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that there is gap of 3 to 4 days between the refill booking and delivery of refill to customers in Delhi Market in cases of some LPG distributors of Delhi.

(b) OMCs have reported 2 established cases of supply of under weight cylinders during last two years (2002-03 & 2003-04) and necessary action against erring distributors has been taken in terms of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

(c) The telephone lines of M/s. Rohini Enterprises are operating throughout the day (during working hours). Customers have the option to make booking for refills either on telephone or in person. If any specific instance is brought to notice of Government, it shall be investigated.

(d) Supplies to all LGP distributors of OMGs in Delhi including those operating in Outer Delhi are being made in adequate quantity and close monitoring is being done to tide over the delay in refill supplies caused by operational deficiency on part of LPG distributors. The delivery men of LPG distributors are under instructions to carry a spring type weighing scale to show the correct weight of the cylinder to customers at the time of delivery. LPG distributors found indulging in malpractices of irregularities like supply of under weight cylinders etc. are penalised in accordance with MDG/Distributorship Agreements.

Oil Partnership with Iran

†2024. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Iran has placed a condition before India to purchase gas for providing partnership in oil sector;

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereon; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) by when a final decision is this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) There is a proposal to import Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) from Iran for the country's energy security in terms of which the Indian side will source 5 million metric tonne per annum (MMTPA) of LNG from Iran in lieu of the Iranian side offering one significant discovered oil field and one semi-discovered Iranian oil field to Indian public sector undertakings, subject to both sides mutually agreeing to the commercial terms and conditions of the arrangements. An MoU has already been signed between the Government of India and the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran in this regard. In addition, there is a proposal to import Natural Gas through pipeline from Iran.

Ashok Lahiri Committee Report

2025. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Ashok Lahiri Committee, which was reviewing the existing customs and excise duty structure on petro-products, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations and observations made in its report;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) by when the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The Advisory Group on rationalisation of tariff structure on crude petroleum and its products with Dr. Ashok Lahiri as Chairman, was constituted on September 27, 2004. The Group was required to submit its report by November 30, 2004. The Advisory Group has sought an extension for deliberating on the issues raised by various stakeholders, whom it had heard. As per the extended time frame, the Group is likely to submit its report by December 31,2004.